

Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

August 15, 1913 1720

service of his municipalities and towns, and shall provide for the establishment of the necessary sanitary service, such as cleaning and watering the streets, removal of garbage and other refuse, public and private disinfection, drainage, drainage of private landed property within populated zones, and of public lands; cleaning of cesspools and other deposits of filth in public property, and in private property when it becomes necessary for public health, as prescribed in this act. The health officer shall enforce all laws, ordinances, and sanitary rules, and shall exercise general supervision over public health within his respective municipalities and towns. The health officer shall not receive any expense allowance for any duty within the limits of his respective territory, except upon special authority of the director of sanitation, nor shall he travel on official business outside of his respective municipalities and towns without his orders.

Sec. 27. That the director of sanitation, medical inspectors, health officers, and assistants shall have the power to make arrests of persons found or apprehended in the act of violating the sanitary law, or any sanitary rules or regulations promulgated thereunder, delivering them as soon as practicable to the nearest police officer, and at the same time making the necessary charges against such offenders, but nothing in this section contained shall authorize any of the officers or assistants enumerated herein to carry revolvers or other unlawful weapons while in the performance of their official duties.

Communicable Diseases—Reporting of Cases of. (Act 81, Mar. 14, 1912.)

SEC. 28. That in conformity with the provisions of this act physicians shall report to the nearest health officer any of the following diseases which they may be attending or may have seen:

Exanthematous typhus, typhoid fever, Malta fever, Asiatic cholera, smallpox, varioloid, scarlet fever, diphtheria, bubonic plague, yellow fever, dengue, beriberi, epidemic dysentery, epidemic cerebrospinal meningitis, whooping cough, epidemic parotiditis, filariasis, tetanus infantum, malaria, tuberculosis, glanders, leprosy, uncinariasis, colibacilosis, infectious pneumonia, malignant pustule, and cutaneous syphilis.

Vaccination—Use of Virus or Serum. (Act 81, Mar. 14, 1912.)

Sec. 29. That the inoculation of vaccine virus be, and is hereby, made obligatory and binding upon all the inhabitants of the island during such period, and under such form and interval of time, as shall be determined by the director of sanitation, the inoculation of any other organic, prophylactic, or therapeutic product in cases of epidemic being also obligatory: *Provided*, That whenever it is deemed necessary by the director of sanitation to use virus or serum to combat any epidemic disease, save smallpox, the express approval of the insular board of health shall be necessary.

Premises—Abatement of Nuisances—Garbage. (Act 81, Mar. 14, 1912.)

SEC. 30. That the director of sanitation, the district inspectors, and the health officers, either in person or through their duly authorized agents or inspectors, be, and are hereby, empowered to enter into any building, house, shop, or place, at any hour during the daytime, to inspect and report on the sanitary condition of the same or to cause the prompt removal or correction of any public nuisance, in the form and manner prescribed in the sanitary regulations.

Investigations or inspections in private dwelling houses shall only be made after obtaining the permission of the occupant of the dwelling house to be inspected. Should such occupant refuse to give permission for such inspection, any municipal judge or justice of the peace may, upon receipt of a sworn statement as to the probable cause therefor, issue an order authorizing the proper officer to enter such private building or dwelling for the purpose of making such investigation or inspection:

1721 August 15, 1913

Provided, That nothing herein contained is to be construed as a limitation on the right of the health officers aforesaid to enter buildings, houses, shops, stores, factories, restaurants, cafés, and all other places except private dwellings without first obtaining the consent of the owner or occupant where the entry is made by the officer in good faith for the purpose of making investigations or inspections to promote the health of the public.

SEC. 31. That in the event of the failure of the owner, agent, or tenant of any property where a public nuisance exists to remove or abate the same within a reasonable time after the proper notification to perform the work has been served, the sanitary authorities are hereby empowered to remove or abate the nuisance at the expense of said owner, agent, or tenant, and the party in interest shall be given due notice of the expenses thereby incurred and shall reimburse the health authorities therefor. Any sums so paid by the sanitary officials for the removal or abatement of a nuisance shall be a lien upon the property from which removed or upon which abated and a legal claim against the owner, agent, or tenant. This action shall not, however, relieve any such owner, agent, or tenant from liability for the violation of the provisions of the sanitary regulations. The director of sanitation shall file in the office of the registrar of property of the district in which the property upon which the lien attaches is located a copy of the notice of expenses incurred in the removal or abatement of a nuisance, as herein provided, together with a description of the property from which the nuisance was removed or upon which it was abated, which notice, from the time of its filing, as herein provided, shall be notice of the existence of the lien herein created to all persons.

SEC. 32. That every person whose property may have been unjustly or illegally destroyed or injured by the enforcement of any order, regulation, ordinance, or by any action taken by the service of sanitation or by its employees or agents exempt from personal liability may maintain the appropriate action against the Government of Porto Rico for the recovery of proper damages; but in such cases the claim must be presented to the director of sanitation, in writing, within 30 days after the occurrence of the acts which gave rise thereto, and the date, place, and degree of the damage or injury suffered, and the estimated value thereof shall set forth in the complaint under oath or affirmation. The director of sanitation shall render his decision within 20 days after the receipt of the claim and after hearing the official or employee responsible for the loss or damage. No judicial action can be brought against the insular government for such damages or injury unless it be established that the claim was presented to the director of sanitation in due time and that the director has failed to decide or has decided adversely or in a form not satisfactory to the claimant within the period of 20 days allowed for him for decision.

SEC. 33. That any person violating any sanitary regulation put in force, as herein provided, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$1 nor more than \$100 or by imprisonment from 1 to 30 days, or with both penalties, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 34. That no court of justice shall make any order which may tend to hinder, retard, suspend, or impede the director of sanitation, the district inspectors, or the health officers, or any of their duly authorized inspectors or agents in their efforts to correct or suppress a public nuisance which may engender sickness or endanger public health without previously notifying the director of sanitation thereof, that he may have the opportunity, personally, or through a legal representative, to appear at the trial of the motion which to that effect may have been filed.

SEC. 35. That section 3 (d) of the act approved March 12, 1903, to provide for the condemnation of private property, be, and is hereby, amended by inserting after the word "slaughterhouses" the words "for the disposal of garbage or other refuse, and for the establishment of quarantine hospitals for people or animals." It is hereby made the duty of each municipality to provide a proper place for the disposal of garbage and refuse to be placed at the disposition of the service of sanitation.